

Table 1 Distribution of demographic, mental health and violence exposure characteristics among the sample of Palestinian youth aged 15–24 years, 2014

Characteristic	Total (n = 2481)	Males (n = 1241)	Females (n = 240)	P-value
Demographic and background characteristics				
Mean age (years)	19.1	18.9	19.2	0.002
Refugee (%)	26.0	25.4	26.5	0.518
Live in rural location (%)	26.9	26.9	26.9	0.989
Currently attending school (%)	63.0	60.2	64.8	0.020
Currently working (%)	18.5	31.0	6.0	< 0.001
Wealth (asset) index (%)	0.000	0.126	-0.127	< 0.001
Married or engaged (%)	17.0	4.2	29.8	< 0.001
Very religious (%)	20.0	21.4	18.0	0.034
Father is alive (%)	93.7	94.0	93.4	0.505
Mother is alive (%)	98.5	99.1	97.8	0.009
Has someone to turn to for support (%)	83.0	82.4	83.8	0.228
Chance of having a good job by age 30 (%)	48.3	54.7	41.9	< 0.001
Currently using tobacco (%)	40.9	55.8	26.0	< 0.001
Has ever used alcohol (%)	11	13.8	7.3	< 0.001
Has attended more than 1 political demonstration or protest (%)	25	29.7	20.7	< 0.001
Mental health				
Global distress mean	1.79	1.65	1.93	< 0.001
Elevated global distress (%)	45.7	33.2	58.2	< 0.001
Depression mean	1.88	1.73	2.02	< 0.001
Elevated depression (%)	55.2	43.1	67.3	< 0.001
Anxiety mean	1.67	1.54	1.80	< 0.001
Elevated anxiety (%)	37.0	26.5	47.7	< 0.001
Violence exposure				
Sum of events experienced in lifetime	2.90	3.42	2.33	< 0.001
Had any personal victimization events ^a (%)	46.7	61.6	31.9	< 0.001
Had any witnessed violence events ^b (%)	70.8	78.9	62.8	< 0.001
Had any vicarious violence events ^c (%)	68.9	71.4	66.5	0.007

^aShare reporting "yes" to any of 5 events: been beaten up or physically assaulted, though not by police or soldiers; physically assaulted by soldiers or police; shot by rubber/plastic or real bullets; imprisoned or held by police or other authority; had house or family home closed or demolished by Israelis or others.

^bShare reporting "yes" to any of 4 events: directly witnessed beating of close relative; directly witnessed killing of close relative or friend; witnessed shooting of close relative or friend by rubber/plastic or real bullets; directly witnessed a close relative/friend's/neighbours' house closure or demolition

^cShare reporting "yes" to any of 2 events: had a close relative or friend who was killed, though you did not witness it; had a close relative who was imprisoned or held.